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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
CEMETERY DEPARTMENT



1913 - 1914

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1913-14



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Cemetery Department



ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
CEMETERY DEPARTMENT  
OF THE  
CITY OF BOSTON  
FOR THE  
FISCAL YEAR 1913-1914



CITY OF BOSTON  
PRINTING DEPARTMENT  
1914



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*Revised. Consult my file for amendments  
June 8, 1914  
1912-1914*



## TRUSTEES OF THE CEMETERY DEPARTMENT.

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CHARLES E. PHIPPS, *Chairman.*

ALBERT W. HERSEY . . . . .	Term ends in 1914
JOHN J. MADDEN . . . . .	" " 1915
FREDERICK E. ATTEAUX . . . . .	" " 1916
CHARLES E. PHIPPS . . . . .	" " 1917
JACOB R. MORSE . . . . .	" " 1918

### COMMITTEES.

On Accounts . . . . .	THE ENTIRE BOARD.
On Greenhouses and Grounds . . .	MR. ATTEAUX, MR. HERSEY AND MR. MADDEN.
On Employees and Pay Rolls . . .	MR. ATTEAUX.
On Purchases and Supplies . . .	MR. HERSEY.
On Improvements and Repairs . . .	MR. MORSE AND MR. MADDEN.
On Copp's Hill, Bunker Hill, Phipps Street and Bennington Street Grounds . . . . .	MR. ATTEAUX.
On King's Chapel, Granary and Cen- tral Grounds . . . . .	MR. MORSE.
On South End South and Eliot (Eustis street) Grounds . . . .	MR. HERSEY.
On Dorchester North, Dorchester South and Hawes Grounds . . .	MR. MADDEN.
On Mount Hope, Evergreen, Fairview, Walter Street, Westerly, Market Street, Warren and Rainsford Island Grounds . . . . .	THE ENTIRE BOARD.
JOHN FRANK KEATING . . . . .	<i>Secretary.</i>
LEONARD W. ROSS . . . . .	<i>General Superintendent.</i>

Office of Cemetery Department, 919, 920 Tremont Building.  
(Post Office Address of Superintendent — Mattapan, Mass.)

## CHAPTER 375.

### AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A CEMETERY DEPARTMENT IN THE CITY OF BOSTON.

*Be it enacted, etc., as follows:*

SECTION 1. There shall be in the city of Boston a cemetery department, which shall be under the charge of a board of five trustees appointed by the mayor, subject to confirmation by the board of aldermen. Said trustees shall, in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-seven, be appointed, one for the term of one year, one for the term of two years, one for the term of three years, one for the term of four years and one for the term of five years, each term beginning with the first day of May in said year; and annually thereafter the mayor shall appoint, subject to confirmation as aforesaid, one trustee for the term of five years, beginning with the first day of May in the year of appointment. Chapter two hundred and sixty-six of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and eighty-five, and all acts relating to departments and officers of departments in the city of Boston, shall, so far as applicable, apply to said department and the officers and employees thereof.

SECT. 2. Said board shall have charge of Mount Hope Cemetery and of all other burial grounds owned by or in charge of the city of Boston; shall set apart and appropriate a portion of said cemetery as a public burying ground for the use of the inhabitants of said city, free from any charge therefor; shall lay out said cemetery in suitable lots or other subdivisions for family or other burials, with necessary paths and avenues; shall plant and embellish the said cemetery with trees, shrubs, flowers and other rural ornaments; may enclose and divide the same with proper fences; may erect or annex thereto suitable edifices, appendages or conveniences; and may make such by-laws, rules and regulations, not inconsistent with statutes or ordinances, as they may deem advisable; and shall perform such other duties relative to such cemetery and said burial grounds as the city council may from time to time prescribe. All acts and all ordinances of said city relating to Mount Hope Cemetery shall, so far as they are not inconsistent herewith, apply to said department and the officers in charge thereof.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

*[Approved May 10, 1897.]*

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
CEMETERY DEPARTMENT  
FOR THE YEAR 1913-14.

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BOSTON, February 2, 1914.

HON. JAMES M. CURLEY,

*Mayor of the City of Boston:*

SIR,— In accordance with chapter 3, section 24, of the Revised Ordinances, the Board of Trustees of the Cemetery Department present their annual report for the financial year ending January 31, 1914.

This Board organized on May 5, at which time Mr. Charles E. Phipps was elected chairman.

The following officials were appointed by the Board to carry out the work of the department under the direction of the trustees:

Mr. Leonard W. Ross, general superintendent, in control of the work carried on in the cemeteries and burying grounds of the department, with headquarters at Mount Hope Cemetery, and direct supervision of the work in and pertaining to that cemetery.

Mr. John Frank Keating, secretary, as the executive officer of the Board of Trustees, in charge of the department office at 919-920 Tremont Building. The minutes and deeds and the financial transactions of the department are recorded in this office. The secretary, in compliance with the city ordinances, is under bonds.

The following custodians were appointed, and are under direction of the general superintendent:

Mr. Charles P. Harding, Evergreen Cemetery and Market Street Burying Ground.

Mr. John J. Burnes, Dorchester North, Dorchester South and Hawes Burying Grounds.

Mr. Frank L. Turner, Bennington Street Cemetery.

Mr. Augustus M. Lydston, Phipps Street and Bunker Hill Burying Grounds.

Mr. John Norton, Copp's Hill Burying Ground.

Mr. Frank T. Donovan, Fairview Cemetery.

King's Chapel, Granary, Central, South End South, Eliot, Kearsarge, Westerly, Walter Street and Rainsford Island Burying Grounds are under direct charge of the general superintendent.

Mr. Jacob R. Morse was reappointed as a Cemetery Trustee for a second term of five years ending April 30, 1918. Mr. Morse has always displayed an enthusiastic and sincere interest in the work of the department during his term as trustee, and naturally so, as he has the stimulus of the splendid services rendered to this department as a trustee and as chairman by his lamented father, Mr. Jacob Morse.

## DEPARTMENT PROPERTY.

The burying grounds, cemeteries and tombs which are owned by and in charge of the City of Boston are as follows:

## EAST BOSTON.

*Ward 1.*

*Bennington Street*, 157,500 square feet.

*Ward 2.*

*Rainsford Island*, 43,560 square feet.

## CHARLESTOWN.

*Ward 3.*

*Bunker Hill*, 48,202 square feet.

*Ward 5.*

*Phipps Street*, 76,740 square feet.

## CITY PROPER.

*Ward 6.*

*Copp's Hill*, Hull street, 89,015 square feet.

*King's Chapel*, Tremont street, 19,344 square feet.

*Ward 7.*

*Granary*, Tremont street, 82,063 square feet.

*Central*, Common, 60,693 square feet.

*Ward 12.*

*South End South*, Washington street, 64,570 square feet.

## SOUTH BOSTON.

*Ward 14.*

*Hawes*, Emerson street, 11,232 square feet.

## ROXBURY.

*Ward 17.*

*Eliot*, Eustis street, 34,830 square feet.

*Warren*, Kearsarge avenue, 54,500 square feet.



## DORCHESTER.

*Ward 20.*

*North*, Upham's Corner, 142,587 square feet.

## WEST ROXBURY.

*Ward 23.*

*Mount Hope*, Walk Hill street, 117 acres and 36,536 square feet. Opposite Mount Hope are two lots of unused land on Berry street, north corner Manning street, 7,150 square feet; and Berry street, south corner Manning street, 5,262 square feet.

*Westerly*, Centre street, 39,450 square feet.

*Walter Street*, 35,100 square feet.

## DORCHESTER.

*Ward 24.*

*South*, Dorchester avenue, 95,462 square feet.

## BRIGHTON.

*Ward 25.*

*Evergreen*, Commonwealth avenue, 604,520 square feet.

*Market Street*, 18,072 square feet.

## HYDE PARK.

*Ward 26.*

*Fairview Cemetery*, Fairview avenue, about fifty acres.

## CITY TOMBS.

Twenty-five in the South Burying Ground; six in Phipps Street Ground, Charlestown; one tomb for infants in South Burying Ground; one tomb for infants and one for adults in the Copp's Hill Burying Ground; one for adults and one for infants in the Granary Burying Ground; one for infants in the Chapel Burying Ground; one in the Central Burying Ground for infants; two receiving tombs in East Boston; one receiving tomb in Dorchester North; one receiving tomb in Dorchester South; one receiving tomb in Evergreen Cemetery, Brighton; one receiving tomb in Mount Hope Cemetery; and one receiving tomb in Fairview Cemetery, Hyde Park.

## CEMETERY TRUST FUND.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE CEMETERY DEPARTMENT OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

SECTION 1. The Cemetery Trustees of the City of Boston shall pay into the treasury of the city all receipts of the Cemetery Department from all sources other than from deposits for perpetual care.

SECT. 2. The City Treasurer shall keep the funds so deposited by the Cemetery Trustees separate from other money and accounts of the city, and the City Treasurer is hereby authorized to invest and reinvest all funds so deposited by the Cemetery Trustees in proper securities and shall allow said funds and the income thereon to accumulate until such time as the income of the fund is sufficient in the opinion of the Mayor and of the Cemetery Trustees to meet the current expenses and expenditures of the Cemetery Department; provided, however, that at any time the Mayor may originate an appropriation for the Cemetery Department to be met out of the income of said fund accruing during a fiscal year.

SECT. 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

[Approved February 18, 1913.]

Money earned, 1913-14 . . . . .	\$31,226 21
Deposited in general fund of city previous to passage of above act . . . . .	453 00
Trust Fund principal, 1913-14 . . . . .	\$30,773 21
Interest on same, 1913-14 . . . . .	60 00
	<u>\$30,833 21</u>

## DETAIL OF TRUST FUND PRINCIPAL BY CEMETERIES.

Mount Hope . . . . .	\$22,205 56
Fairview . . . . .	3,987 25
Evergreen . . . . .	3,824 20
Dorchester North . . . . .	346 95
Dorchester South . . . . .	123 80
Copp's Hill . . . . .	65 68
Bennington Street . . . . .	51 00
Central . . . . .	45 00
Westerly . . . . .	36 00
Phipps Street . . . . .	34 60
King's Chapel . . . . .	29 45
South End South . . . . .	15 00
Granary . . . . .	8 72
	<u>\$30,773 21</u>



## CEMETERY DEPARTMENT.

[illegible]

## Expenditures for Fiscal Year

CEMETERY DEPARTMENT.	Office Expenses.	Mount Hope.	Evergreen and Market Street.	Fairview.	Dorchester North.	Phipps Street and Bunker Hill.	Copp's Hill.
Labor.....		\$51,229 75	\$5,993 32	\$5,171 86	\$2,074 39	\$1,740 75	\$1,951 25
Superintendent, salary.....	\$2,541 00						
Secretary, salary.....	1,727 80						
Clerks, messenger.....	2,450 69						
Pensions.....	2,365 98						
Repairs and brick, lumber, cement.....		1,008 34	279 14	10 08	15 47	55 00	49 52
Tarvia.....		859 55	132 20				
Building repairs.....		1,662 76	400 94	166 00			133 00
Teaming.....			191 25				
Sidewalk.....			137 60		222 31		
Water pipes.....				342 67			
New wire fence.....							
Tools, hardware, etc.....		1,420 82	13 98	125 11		23 67	
Metal for concrete.....		548 54					
Flagpoles.....		98 50					98 50
Horse feed.....		2,016 24	300 00	58 98			
Fuel.....		2,004 20	94 50	19 15	49 05		13 38
Auto supplies, repairs.....		1,199 14					
Markers.....		784 90	37 25	17 10	22 05		
Seeds, plants, sods.....		755 03	28 00	286 99			
{ Vehicle repairs.....		47 00	35 25				
{ Express wagon.....		268 00					
Loam, fertilizer.....		263 00	18 00		30 50	604 50	52 50
Electric light.....		248 48	10 75				
Harness, stable supplies.....		225 37					
Furnishings.....		216 29	39 65	52 50	73 04		
Printing, binding.....	272 30	170 06	28 54	70 13	6 70		
Telephones.....	113 98	149 05	30 68	57 82	26 50		
{ Stationery, directory.....	81 89	65 11	2 45	7 05	4 87		
{ Typewriter.....	51 25						
{ Postage.....	88 00	48 00	12 00	4 00	2 00		
Team hire, freight.....		104 59		356 13		18 75	
{ Shoeing, veterinary.....		43 00	48 00				
{ Horse exchange.....		50 00					
Flower pots.....		87 98					
Insurance and bonds.....	31 00	60 00					
Car fares.....	7 04	40 37					
Sundries.....	7 50	20 00			8 12		
Medical service.....		18 00			9 00		
Totals.....	\$9,738 43	\$65,712 07	\$7,833 50	\$6,745 57	\$2,544 00	\$2,442 67	\$2,298 15



## 1913-14. Regular Appropriation.

Granary.	Bennington Street.	Dorchester South.	King's Chapel.	Eliot.	Westerly.	South End South.	Central.	Hawes.	Walter Street.	Totals.
\$1,746 04	\$660 00	\$902 00	\$656 75	\$592 50	\$347 00	\$287 50	\$155 00	\$77 50	\$60 00	\$73,645 61
										2,541 00
										1,727 80
										2,450 69
										2,365 98
66 69	9 25		3 68	5 60			28 83			1,531 60
										991 75
										2,362 70
										191 25
										359 91
55 57										398 24
	575 00									575 00
29 80	3 55									1,616 93
										548 54
										197 00
										2,375 22
	16 75									2,197 03
										1,199 14
										861 30
23 42										1,093 44
										82 25
										268 00
70 00										1,038 50
										259 23
										225 37
										381 48
										547 73
										378 03
										161 37
										51 25
										154 00
4 50	9 00									492 97
										91 00
										50 00
										87 98
										91 00
										47 41
										35 62
										27 00
\$1,996 02	\$1,273 55	\$902 00	\$660 43	\$598 10	\$347 00	\$287 50	\$183 83	\$77 50	\$60 00	\$103,700 32

## SPECIAL APPROPRIATION.

*Fairview Cemetery.*

January 1, 1912, received from town of Hyde Park, unex- pended earnings . . . . .		\$11,953 28
Expenditures, 1913-14:		
Repairs on Custodian's House:		
Carpenter work . . . . .	\$466 00	
Plumbing . . . . .	222 00	
Furnace and range . . . . .	155 00	
Painting and papering . . . . .	140 00	
Electric wiring . . . . .	97 00	
		<u>1,080 00</u>
Unexpended balance . . . . .		<u>\$10,873 28</u>

## SPECIAL APPROPRIATION.

*Dorchester North Burying Ground.*

Appropriation authorized December 19, 1911 . . . . .	\$9,000 00	
Additional appropriation June 10, 1912 . . . . .	12,000 00	
		<u>\$21,000 00</u>
Expended to January 31, 1913 . . . . .	17,603 99	
		<u>\$3,396 01</u>
Balance . . . . .		<u>\$3,396 01</u>
Expenditures, 1913-14:		
Concrete and Expanded Metal Construction Company, final . . . . .	\$2,637 20	
James E. McLaughlin, architect, final . . . . .	107 23	
Labor . . . . .	354 75	
Shrubs . . . . .	201 83	
Bronze tablet . . . . .	95 00	
		<u>\$3,396 01</u>

## ANNUAL REPORT OF GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT.

*To the Trustees of the Cemetery Department, City of Boston:*

GENTLEMEN,—I submit herewith my fifth annual report as general superintendent of this department for the year beginning February 1, 1913, and ending January 31, 1914.

A detailed statement of the work performed during the year is as follows:

	Interments.	Lots Sold.	Graves Sold.	Lots in Perpetual Care.	Graves in Perpetual Care.	Lots in Annual Care.	Graves in Annual Care.	Foundations Built.	Preparing and Planting.	Sundry Work.
Mount Hope.....	1,413	40	539	1,323	144	153	81	234	205	172
Fairview.....	248	8	154	30	2	14	.....	36	1	10
Evergreen.....	89	8	40	217	83	77	68	52	3	33
Dorchester North.....	22	.....	.....	63	.....	46	2	7	4	7
Dorchester South.....	11	.....	.....	13	.....	7	.....	3	.....	.....
Bennington Street.....	11	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
King's Chapel.....	6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Phipps Street.....	5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
Copp's Hill.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Westerly.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	.....
Central.....	3	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Totals.....	1,816	56	733	1,646	229	297	151	336	213	223

MOUNT HOPE CEMETERY.—Chapel used for burial service 26 times; receiving tomb used 54 times.

Land sold for burial purposes in square feet: For lots, 4,027, and for graves, 10,179.

Land improvements in square feet: 147,000 in lots, borders, etc., graded, regraded, fertilized, seeded and sodded; 16,000 prepared for lot sales; 52,000 graded and prepared for sale in single graves; 32,000 cubic yards of earth removed; 325 tons of stone taken out and crushed; 12,111 square feet avenues done with "Tarvia B"; 160,700 square feet tarvia penetration macadam; 621 grave markers and 73 lot markers set; 11 markers received from United States Government and set at

graves of veterans; 4 brick graves built; 6 iron fences removed and lots put in order. Flagpole set at cemetery entrance.

The work of removing surplus posts and the lowering of corner bound posts to level of surface has been continued with marked improvement in appearance of grounds.

During the year we built with our own labor, excepting roofs, a granite plant storage house, 22 feet by 62 feet; and of the same material, with iron roof, doors and window, thus making it fireproof, a steam roller house; both of which are giving good service and relieve a necessity of long standing.

Much repair work, painting, pointing of joints and roof repairs have been done upon the administration building, green-houses and superintendent's house.

An increased amount of work has been done during the year upon the care of trees, not only at Mount Hope but in the other grounds of the department as well, consisting of insect suppression, pruning of trees and the removal of dying and dead ones. I am pleased to report that the trees throughout the department are now freer from insect infestation than at any time during my connection with the department.

EVERGREEN CEMETERY.—Services held in cemetery lodge 10 times; receiving tomb used 9 times.

Land sold for burial purposes in square feet: For lots, 1,040, and for graves, 960.

Land improvements in square feet: Regraded and seeded, 1,915; trenching for single graves, 1,500; 3,000 of borders resodded and graded; 875 feet of avenues rebuilt and covered with tarvia.

A section of single graves, 4,300 square feet, off Western avenue regraded; four trees removed; office building repaired and painted inside and out.

MARKET STREET GROUND.—131 feet of stone wall repaired; 1,376 square feet of new concrete sidewalk built.

FAIRVIEW CEMETERY.—Receiving tomb used 6 times.

Land sold for burial purposes in square feet: For lots, 1,500, and for graves, 3,696.

Land improvements in square feet: Land prepared for lots, 55,320; regraded and seeded, 31,130; avenues constructed, 11,140; borders sodded, 2,500; avenues excavated, 11,200 cubic feet; avenues resurfaced with gravel, 1,200 lineal feet; stone gutters laid, 1,028 lineal feet; 48 trees removed; 150 grave markers set. Dwelling house repaired and painted. A horse and team has been placed permanently at this ground. About 200 feet of 4-inch water main was laid from Fairview avenue along Fairview drive and a hydrant built at the terminus. A connection was then made from this point to the dwelling house, and the latter was piped for water. This 4-inch main was substituted for a 1½-inch main previously laid. A 1½-inch water pipe extends through the cemetery. This improvement gives a water service during the entire year instead of the previous summer service only.

DORCHESTER NORTH GROUND.— Land improvements: 52,042 square feet of land graded; 3,214 feet of sods laid for paths and borders; 317 single headstones straightened; 322 corner posts reset; 33 sign posts painted and relettered; 3 iron fences removed from lots; 17 double loads loam for grading; 10 double loads loam and 2 double loads manure for shrubs. Receiving tomb used 3 times; 3 trees removed.

PHIPPS STREET GROUND.— 4 trees removed and 9 trees pruned; iron fence painted and repaired; tool house shingled and stove placed in same; chimney repaired; 1,067 stones reset; 2 tombs rebuilt at expense of owners. As no work had been done here for many years, except cutting and cleaning such growth as existed, the loam surface had about all disappeared through the process of erosion. It was therefore deemed best to loam over the entire surface, after digging out and removal of old growth, thus supplying a new surface of virgin loam and decomposed stable manure, as well as using lime and commercial fertilizer. Nearly all headstones have been straightened, and paths are to be recovered with reinforced concrete tiles. The grading of this ground, distribution of loam and fertilizer, sodding around edges, tombs and trees, and work of a similar nature remain to be completed this spring. The results after completion should prove lasting and pleasing.

BUNKER HILL GROUND.— Iron fence painted and repaired; 11 trees removed and 7 trees pruned; tool house boarded and shingled; 52 headstones reset.

COPP'S HILL GROUND.— Office building repaired and painted; flagpole set near office; 5 tombs repaired; removed 16 dead or dying trees, and pruned 39 remaining; straightened and reset nearly all headstones; spaded, regraded, limed and applied fertilizer, and seeded entire area, sodding all path edges around trees and structures.

GRANARY GROUND.— Eight tombs repaired. A water service for surface irrigation was installed about 400 feet by the laying of  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch galvanized pipe and the placing of 4 uprights and 2 shut-offs. Removed all old growth of shrubbery in borders; straightened up headstones; repaired all tomb superstructures; spaded entire surface of ground, removing all noxious growths; fertilized and seeded, sodded all path edges around all trees and structures and covered all paths with reinforced concrete tiles. Pruned all trees in the ground.

BENNINGTON STREET GROUND.— At this cemetery approximately 370 feet of wooden picket fence extending on Bennington street from the end of the tombs northerly and turning easterly for 30 feet was removed. In its place the Wright Wire Company erected a stout wire fence 7 feet high, all galvanized frame and heavy galvanized after material, posts bedded in cement. Fence constructed of heavy 2 and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inch posts supported by a rail running full length of the fence, cut between the posts. At the entrance on Bennington street



in place of a former wooden gate was placed a heavy T-iron frame, heavy wire double drive gate 12 feet wide and 7 feet high, equipped with heavy hangers and extra heavy braces, also chain and padlock for same. All the end, corner and gate posts in the complete line of fence made of  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch extra heavy galvanized pipe bedded 4 feet in cement. The posts along the line were bedded  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet in cement.

KING'S CHAPEL GROUND.—The additional work of seeding, surfacing and planting inaugurated four seasons ago was continued during the past year. One tomb opened for investigation.

ELIOT GROUND.—One tomb repaired.

CENTRAL GROUND.—Iron fence and 1 tomb repaired.

The custodians of the various cemeteries of the department have generally rendered satisfactory service during the past year.

I thank you for the continued courtesy and consideration shown me by the members of the Board of Trustees.

Respectfully submitted,

LEONARD W. ROSS,  
*General Superintendent.*

## SUMMARY.

The appropriation for 1913 permitted us to do an unusual amount of work under what might be termed general maintenance, and we are particularly pleased to report that a very great amount of work was performed under the head of repairs and improvements which will ultimately save the city thousands of dollars by being done at this time. The general receipts of the department were very gratifying when the financial conditions prevalent are taken into consideration. The amount received for perpetual care was second to that received during 1912 — the largest amount received in a single year — by the department for this fund. We realize fully that a great amount of work must be done among the lot owners to induce them to place their lots in perpetual care, and this is being urged upon them as thoroughly as we are able to do. The following circular is being sent to every lot owner whose address we have:

The duty devolves upon the living to make such provision that the last resting place of relatives and friends shall always be in a presentable condition, and this duty may be twofold, as the lot under consideration may be your burying place. While you may care for the lot annually while living, you cannot be assured that those who follow you will take the same interest. This proper care can be made positive by perpetual care now. How true it is that in every cemetery some lots receive but little or no attention because those who are buried therein did not in time make provision for perpetual care, and the living neglect the lots through oversight or other causes. Another decided advantage derived from perpetual care is the improvement in general appearance of the entire cemetery. Each lot owner can contribute a share towards an excellent general appearance of the entire ground by providing perpetual care for his or her lot. If every lot was in perpetual care, what a splendid general appearance the entire cemetery would present. Will you kindly consider this question now?

*Cost.*— A uniform charge is made of 50 cents per square foot for perpetual care, and this amount is placed at interest by the city. The bond issued guarantees that during the existence of the city an amount equal to 4 per cent of the total deposited is spent each year for care. Thus, whether living or dead, the

bond of the city guarantees that your lot will never be neglected. As the cost of perpetual care is figured, there is certainly a saving to the lot owner as compared with payment for care annually, but above all is the guarantee of perpetual care.

Please write or call here for any further information desired.

The lot owners have responded generously to our appeals for perpetual care, and with a corresponding response the amount received as interest on this fund should be doubled at least every ten years. This will mean in time a substantial amount for the perpetual care of lots in Mount Hope, Evergreen, Fairview and Dorchester North Cemeteries.

Of the remaining 16 cemeteries under the jurisdiction of the department, on account of the conditions we cannot expect perpetual care funds to be received for the Warren and Rainsford Island Cemeteries. For the remaining 14 cemeteries we are now receiving about \$625, in total, each year as interest on perpetual care funds. These 14 cemeteries include the historic burying grounds of the City of Boston, and owing to a lack of a financial policy in years gone by which would have provided for their maintenance when they ceased to be actively used as burying places, they are now practically thrown upon the city for the present generation to maintain them in a manner befitting their historical association, and which is continually demanded by our own citizens and even with greater force by those who come to our city and who make a journey through these grounds one of their special objects and privileges. Previous generations of our citizens cannot be held strictly at fault for not providing for present day conditions by a perpetual care fund, as this fund is practically a latter-day institution. But we respectfully submit that the burying grounds which contain the mortal remains of those who by their acts contributed so much from the earliest times to the glorious history of our city, our state and our nation are places which should command the patriotic spirit and solicitude of our citizens, and are of far greater importance as historical shrines, on account of the ashes which they contain, than are the buildings and other historical monuments which receive so much attention. The descendants of those who are buried in these grounds are located in almost every part of the United States, and they and the later generations are enjoying privileges which those early patriots were

so willing to sacrifice every personal interest and comfort to obtain and maintain. May we not justly appeal to all classes of our citizens to remember these old grounds, and where their financial condition permits to ask them to contribute their share to endow the grounds in order that they may be removed from the stigma of being pensioners of the city government, and their perpetuity for the historical instruction and glory of future generations be absolutely assured?

The total amount collected from all sources except perpetual care since 1897 is \$436,943.35. There was due the department from all sources on January 31, 1914, \$932.35, or slightly more than  $\frac{1}{5}$  of 1 per cent.

The subject of the burials in a lot after the decease of the original owner is one of vital importance. In our experience it is shown that it is a matter which the lot owner while living should place on record with this department, or provide for specifically in his will. By so doing he will avoid complications which almost universally occur where the original owner does not take any action, and the differences which arise in such cases are the most difficult which confront the department, as they deal directly with the family. Those engaged in cemetery duties are desirous of extending every courtesy at the time of a death in a family, but under the law the cemetery official is powerless to act to untangle complications which arise. We have taken the initiative in the matter and are sending the following circular of suggestions to lot owners, hoping thereby to disseminate widely the law relative to the lot owners' rights concerning burials after their decease, which if followed out will prevent many unpleasant situations:

When an individual makes a so-called purchase of a burying lot, he in reality purchases only the right of burial forever of human dead in a certain plot of ground. Therefore the burial lot is not considered as real estate or personal property. The original purchaser has the right during his lifetime to inter whomsoever he wishes in his lot. Previous to his decease, or by a will, he should transfer, or bequeath the lot under one of the following conditions, bearing in mind that but one person or the city must be named. Two or more persons cannot own the lot:

1. By a transfer to one whom he selects during his lifetime, on a form provided by this department, with such instructions or restrictions regarding interments, removals and memorial stones, written on said form as he may desire.

2. By a transfer to the city during his lifetime under the same conditions.

3. By naming the lot specifically in his will and transferring it to one individual, or to the city, under the same conditions.

A lot cannot be transferred to the city unless it is under perpetual care. A transfer to one person, or to the city, with instruction to pay for perpetual care may be provided in a will. A lot does not pass by will under any general clause but must be named separately from other property, and the husband or wife of an owner does not inherit the lot except by specific instructions to this effect in the will. To avoid the unending trouble occasioned where the original owner does not provide for a single ownership during his lifetime, or after his decease, it is the solemn duty of each lot owner to attend to this matter at once. Full information and blank suitable to each case may be had by applying at this office. Are you a lot owner in a cemetery controlled by this department, or is the lot in which you are interested in the name of a deceased person? If so, read carefully the foregoing, and take this subject up with this office now.

We are gratified to report that this matter has also been taken up with the officials of many private and public cemeteries, who have found conditions similar to those we have experienced, and they have given assurance of cooperation with us.

The present day conditions demand a proper index containing full information regarding burials in the cemeteries, which will answer promptly and correctly the endless questions asked daily concerning the same. We have realized the lack of such a system in our more active grounds, and are endeavoring to install such a system gradually in order that the expense may not fall too heavily in any one year. By vote of the Board an extra clerk has been engaged at the city office during 1913 preparing such an index for Fairview Cemetery. The records of this ground received when Hyde Park was annexed to Boston were in such a condition that we were enabled to adopt the card system and more easily obtain a perfect standard which could be used in the other cemeteries. A complete index enables us to give the name, age and date of death of each person in alphabetical order, to give the same information as to the number buried in a single grave, or to give the number buried in a lot, the number of the grave in the lot, and the name, age and date of death of each person



buried. While some difficulties were encountered in making the index of Fairview Cemetery, its late establishment as a cemetery made the work comparatively easy and correct when compiled to date. We must anticipate more difficulties in the earlier established cemeteries, but on account of the importance of having such an index and the knowledge that each succeeding year makes the information to be desired more difficult to ascertain, we believe that this work should be continued as an absolute necessity to the proper conduct of burials in our cemeteries.

At Dorchester North Burying Ground upon the completion of the wall, the work of regrading the entire ground was undertaken and considerable progress made. The removal of dead trees and the pruning of others was included in the labor of beautifying this ground.

At Fairview Cemetery the dwelling at the entrance was placed in tenable condition and is now occupied by the custodian. The building is too small to be used as a dwelling and also to provide office facilities, and is unsuitable for an office as at present arranged. Plans are being discussed which contemplate a suitable office and dwelling combined. In order to carry out at this cemetery the improvements which we have planned it has been found absolutely necessary to place there two more laborers permanently and one horse and team. The favorable comments thus far expressed by those who have seen the improved condition of the ground are gratifying to this Board.

In accordance with the following votes the cemetery at Rainsford Island was placed under the jurisdiction of this department on June 12, 1913:

CHILDREN'S INSTITUTIONS DEPARTMENT,  
May 20, 1913.

By direction and with the approval of the Mayor, this department transfers to the Cemetery Department the burial ground on Rainsford Island, Boston Harbor, as shown on a "Plan of Rainsford Island in Boston Harbor surveyed under the direction of Alexander Paris by B. F. Perham, Boston, February 1, 1839," a copy of which plan is inclosed herewith.

(Signed) JOHN O'HARE,  
*Chairman.*

Approved May 23, 1913, by his Honor Mayor Fitzgerald.

The vote of the trustees of this department was as follows:

*Voted*, That this Board of Trustees accepts the transfer of this cemetery, and that the secretary be instructed to obtain all papers and documents in relation thereto now held by other departments.

This island was used as a quarantine station as early as 1737, and continued under the jurisdiction of the state until 1866. It was purchased by the City of Boston for an almshouse in 1871, and in 1895 its present use as a house of reformation for boys was inaugurated. It is unquestionable that burials were made from the earliest occupancy of the island, and several thousand persons must have been interred in this small cemetery. The earliest stone standing at the present time is dated 1749. Between 1871 and 1882 indigent veterans were sent to Rainsford Island, and those who died were buried in the cemetery there. An agitation started in 1912 and finally taken up with the United States government has resulted in the preparation of plans for the erection of a monument in this cemetery to the veterans buried therein. Pending the final action of the government relative to the erection of the monument, this department has delayed carrying out plans to place the cemetery in good condition.

Excellent progress has been made toward completing the plan of Mount Hope Cemetery by the engineering force of the City of Boston. This will be the first plan of the cemetery ever made which might be properly termed a working plan, and no plan of any kind has been made of the ground for very many years.

This subject of plans compels us again to call attention to the fact that we are very poorly equipped in the matter of plans of our cemeteries. If the expense could be eliminated, the only proper way would be to place a force of four or five men at the work preparing plans of each of our grounds, but this would entail an expenditure which our appropriation does not warrant. We must therefore endeavor to acquire this necessary adjunct to proper work by a gradual process, still hoping for favorable financial conditions which will hasten the completion of the work.

The preservation of the old grave stones has always been considered as one of the duties of the trustees.

Well meaning but mistaken descendants occasionally desire to destroy an old stone and replace it by a monument of granite or other modern material in an old cemetery. We believe that it is neither historically nor artistically correct to thus modernize the ancient burying grounds. While the destruction of stones and their replacement is considered individually as each case presents itself, where the stone to be demolished is less than 100 years old, we have placed on our records a vote that no stone erected 100 years ago or earlier shall be removed unless the condition of the stone and the facts concerning its proposed removal are duly considered by this Board from every point.

There is no question that ten of the old cemeteries controlled by this department are sadly in need of a thorough renovation, and although we are cognizant of their condition and would gladly welcome an appropriation to place them in proper order, we are forced to consider the financial condition of the city and the possible injustice of taxing any one year for this work, however necessary. We, however, feel it our duty to state that the condition at Phipps Street Ground demanded immediate attention last year, and late in the season the work of improvement was begun, but suspended on account of the weather. We must, under the circumstances, proceed with and finish this work in the early spring or lose the benefit of the results thus far accomplished. In considering the other grounds we selected the Central Ground on Boston Common, and stated in our recent estimate sent to the city government that the work of improvement should be undertaken in 1914. The surface of this ground is in a deplorable state, and there is no drainage of any kind in the entire ground, and the tombs also need repairs and repointing. We respectfully submit that this necessary repair work can be done now at an estimated cost of about \$3,000, and such an expenditure will save the city many times this amount in the very near future if done at once. The force of our previous statement in this summary relative to the endowment of these old grounds can be appreciated when the vast amount of work necessary is considered, but we are perforce compelled to ask the city government to appropriate the money which can be wisely and well spent now.

With the postponement of the consideration of our recommendation by the city government, we can only

hope that some great hearted citizens of our city may rise to the occasion and endow these grounds in such amounts that any question of their perpetuity as historical shrines on account of expense of maintenance may be forever answered as a result of such patriotic spirit.

In conclusion we can but ask for a fair consideration of the needs of the department and a corresponding response thereto.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES E. PHIPPS, *Chairman.*

JACOB R. MORSE.

FREDERICK E. ATTEAUX.

ALBERT W. HERSEY.

JOHN J. MADDEN.













